AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-38 (Cancelled).

39. (Currently Amended) A garment comprising a piece of clothing having at least one pad of conformal, energy dissipating media, wherein the pad is positioned at a location on the clothing to diminish the effect of a sudden impact on a wearer of the garment;

wherein each pad is comprised of conformal media surrounded by an encasement, wherein the media is a polymer composition; and

wherein the encasement is welded directly to the clothing.

40. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the encasement is made of one from the group consisting of polyurethane, urethane, PVC, nylon and neoprene.

41. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the encasement material is polyurethane and the clothing material is nylon.

42 (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the encasement material is nylon and the garment material is nylon.

43. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the welding is done using RF welding or UV welding.

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Currently Amended) The garment according to claim ~~45~~ 39, wherein the

polymer composition is polyborosiloxane.

47. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the pad is made up of a plurality of adjacent projections.

48. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 47, wherein the plurality of adjacent projections are mounted upon a common substrate.

49. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 47, wherein the projections are strips oriented parallel to one another.

50. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 47, wherein each projection is a disc comprised of conformal media surrounded by an encasement.

51. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the thickness of a pad is 3/8 inch.

52. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the clothing is a shirt.

53. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 52 wherein a pad is located in the shoulder region of the shirt.

54. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 52, wherein a pad is located in the rib region of the shirt.

55. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the clothing is a pair of pants having pant legs.

56. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 55, wherein a pad is located on the clothing in the thigh region of one or more pant legs.

57. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein the clothing is a sleeve and the pad is located on the sleeve.

58. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 57, wherein the sleeve is adapted to fit around the shin of a wearer as a shin guard.

59. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 57, wherein the sleeve is adapted to fit around the thigh of a wearer as a thigh guard.

60. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 57, wherein the sleeve is adapted to fit around the forearm of a wearer as a forearm guard.

61. (Previously Presented) The garment according to claim 39, wherein a pad is located on the clothing in the region of the tailbone of a wearer.

62. (Previously Presented) A system for more uniformly distributing the forces of sudden impact upon hard shell padding comprising:

a) a garment of clothing worn by a wearer;

b) hard shell padding placed over the garment to protect a portion or portions of the body of the wearer;

c) at least one pad of energy dissipating conformal media secured at a location on the garment between the wearer's body and the hard shell padding wherein the pad conforms between the hard shell padding and the wearer's body such that the force of a sudden impact upon the hard shell padding causes the pad to distribute the force of impact over the area of the pad in contact with the wearer's body; and

d) wherein each pad is comprised of conformal media surrounded by an encasement and each pad is welded directly to the garment.

63. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 62, wherein the conformal media is also energy dissipating.

64. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 62, wherein the conformal media is polyborosiloxane.

65. (Previously Presented) The system in accordance with claim 62, wherein the wearer is a person, the hard shell padding is a set of shoulder pads, the clothing is a shirt and wherein the at least one pad is a plurality of pads which are secured to the clothing in the region of the shoulders.

66. (Previously Presented) The system in accordance with claim 65, wherein the pads are further secured to the clothing to protect the scapula, clavicle and upper ribs of the wearer.

67. (Previously Presented) The system in accordance with claim 62, wherein the wearer is a person, the hard shell padding is a shin guard, the garment is a sleeve and wherein the at least one pad is secured to the sleeve between the shin guard and the shin of the wearer.

68. (Previously Presented) The system in accordance with claim 62, wherein the wearer is a person, the hard shell padding is a forearm guard, the garment is a sleeve and wherein the at least one pad is secured to the sleeve between the forearm guard and the forearm of the wearer.

69. (Currently Amended) A method of securing a pad having a conformal, energy dissipating media surrounded by an encasement; and each pad is welded directly to the garment, comprising the steps of:

a) confining energy dissipating media within an encasement to define a pad, wherein the media is comprised of a polymer composition;

b~~a~~) positioning the pad at a location on the garment to diminish the effect of a sudden impact on a wearer of the garment; and

c~~b~~) welding the pad directly to the garment.

70. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 69, wherein the step of welding is comprised of RF welding.

71. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 69, wherein the step of welding is comprised of UV welding.

72. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 69 wherein the garment and the pad are each made of nylon.

73. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 69, wherein the garment is made of nylon and the pad is made of polyurethane.

74. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 69, wherein the encasement and the garment are made of materials suitable to be welded to one another.

75. (New) A garment comprising a piece of clothing having at least one pad of conformal, energy dissipating media, wherein the pad is positioned at a location on the clothing to diminish the effect of a sudden impact on a wearer of the garment;

wherein each pad is comprised of conformal media surrounded by an encasement and wherein the media is a fluid in the absence of a sudden impact, and a solid when the pad is subjected to a sudden impact; and

wherein the encasement is welded directly to the clothing.

76. (New) A method of securing a pad to a garment, comprising the steps of:

a) confining energy dissipating media within an encasement to define the pad, wherein the media is a fluid in the absence of a sudden impact, and a solid when the pad is subjected to a sudden impact;

b) positioning the pad at a location on the garment to diminish the effect of a sudden impact on a wearer of the garment; and

c) welding the pad directly to the garment.